

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 730

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE JOINT FINANCE-APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE; AMENDING SECTION 67-435, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE JOINT FINANCE-APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 67-435, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

67-435. POWERS AND DUTIES. (1) The joint finance-appropriations committee shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To review the executive budget and the budget requests of each state department, agency and institution, including requests for construction of capital improvements, as well as other requests for appropriations submitted to the legislature.

(b) To conduct such hearings as it may deem necessary and proper.

(c) To submit a report to each session of the legislature covering its activities during the preceding period and setting forth its findings and recommendations and to make such recommendations to the appropriate legislative committees as it may deem proper concerning the budget and other proposed legislation.

(d) To perform such other duties as the legislature or legislative council may by appropriate resolution direct.

(2) The joint finance-appropriations committee shall use the following procedures for releasing reports produced by the legislative audits division:

(a) All reports produced by the legislative audits division shall be delivered to the cochair of the joint finance-appropriations committee for their review and approval prior to release;

(b) The cochair of the joint finance-appropriations committee may, at their discretion, conduct hearings relating to any report and seek input and testimony prior to, or after reports are released; and

(c) After such review as deemed necessary and prudent by the cochair of the joint finance-appropriations committee, the cochair shall release the reports produced by the legislative audits division within sixty (60) days of submission to the cochair; except in the event that a report is returned to the legislative audits division for further audit or review, then the cochair shall approve the release of reports within sixty (60) days after the report is resubmitted to the cochair.

(3) The joint finance-appropriations committee shall provide the public and legislators opportunity to comment on any proposed budget prior to the committee setting an agency budget. The committee shall also have prepared detailed minutes of all its proceedings that shall be available to the public on a meeting by meeting basis. The committee shall also consult

1 with germane committee members prior to setting any budget and the committee
2 shall refrain from using legislative intent language to abrogate a statute
3 but shall play the entire statute out in full to comply with the state
4 constitution.

5 SECTION 2. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
6 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its
7 passage and approval.